

Serial No. 10/042,894
TC/A.U. 1638

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 36, beginning at line 25, under the heading "A. Total RNA Isolation" with the following amended paragraph:

Total RNA was isolated from maize tissues with TRIzol Reagent ® (Life Technology Inc. Gaithersburg, MD) using a modification of the guanidine isothiocyanate/acid-phenol procedure described by Chomczynski and Sacchi (*Anal. Biochem.* 162, 156 (1987)). In brief, plant tissue samples were pulverized in liquid nitrogen before the addition of the TRIzol Reagent ®, and then were further homogenized with a mortar and pestle. Addition of chloroform followed by centrifugation was conducted for separation of an aqueous phase and an organic phase. The total RNA was recovered by precipitation with isopropyl alcohol from the aqueous phase.

Please replace the paragraphs beginning on page 38, beginning at line 1 and line 7, with the following amended paragraphs:

B. Q-bot ® Subtraction Procedure

cDNA libraries subjected to the subtraction procedure were plated out on 22 x 22 cm² agar plate at density of about 3,000 colonies per plate. The plates were incubated in a 37°C incubator for 12-24 hours. Colonies were picked into 384-well plates by a robot colony picker, Q-bot ® (GENETIX Limited). These plates were incubated overnight at 37°C.

Once sufficient colonies were picked, they were pinned onto 22 x 22 cm² nylon membranes using Q-bot ®. Each membrane contained 9,216 colonies or 36,864 colonies. These membranes were placed onto individual agar plates with appropriate antibiotic. The plates were incubated at 37°C for overnight.